

**A Proclamation submitted by
Legislator Barbara Miller-Williams**

Re: Congratulating Journey's End Refugee Services on 30 Years of Service to the Western New York Community

WHEREAS, Phyllis Tompkins, a member of Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, initiated efforts to gather local resources for the needs of refugees resettling in Western New York and enlisted the support of local churches; and

WHEREAS, the work of Journey's End Refugee Services began in 1979, providing a range of services to refugees from all over the world such as Refugee Resettlement, Education Services, Employment Services, Immigration-Legal Services and Interpreting Services, helping to resettle about 500 refugees each year; and

WHEREAS, this year, Journey's End celebrates 30 years of effectively manifesting their mission, welcoming refugees to Western New York and working to assist people in becoming healthy, independent and contributing members to the community; and

WHEREAS, in order to raise the suitable funds that would ensure Journey's End mission is fulfilled, an Inarguable Gala will take place on April 17, 2015;

WHEREAS, the Journey's End Refugee Services has truly become a welcoming oasis amid stress and uncertainty for refugees, this noble and just organization warrants praise.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and honor Journey's End as an exemplary organization in all that they devote to enhancing society and celebrate thirty years of welcoming refugees to the Western New York community.